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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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25X1**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Hungary

DATE DISTR. 3 February 1953

SUBJECT Training Camp at Kecel

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1. The airfield, target range, and camp of Kecel lie 11 km. south of the village of Kiskörös, seven km. northwest of Kecel, and on the west side of the road Kalocsa-Kiskörös. Toward the end of the Second World War the Russians set up an emergency airfield there, though without any buildings.
2. The length of the airfield is 1,600 m, its width 900 m.
3. Until the summer of 1951 the airfield was quite empty. In August of that year a mixed Russian-Hungarian Military Commission inspected and surveyed the place, but until the fall 1951 no work had been done.
4. It was decided that Hungarian Artillery should use the area as a target range, and during the summer of 1951 several buildings were constructed at the northeast edge of the airfield, some of which were for laboratory purposes. The laboratories were closed in with heavy barbed wire. Near them a tall observation tower was constructed, which was constantly occupied by a noncommissioned officer with a pair of field glasses.
5. Inhabitants of the neighborhood are forbidden to trespass on the target range area. When new ammunition or new guns are being tested, the road from Kecel to Kiskörös is closed to all traffic and posted with red and white flags.
6. There are about 120 to 130 Hungarian artillerists in the barracks, but no Russians.
7. Newly built Hungarian artillery pieces are tested on the target range. Recently there have been tests of 155 mm. and 76.2 mm. guns, as well as mortars, and two new types of rocket projectors, somewhat resembling those used by the Germans during the war.

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